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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/065,765	11/18/2002	Daw-I Wang	ALIP0005USA	9206
27765	7590	12/05/2005	EXAMINER	
NORTH AMERICA INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CORPORATION P.O. BOX 506 MERRIFIELD, VA 22116			AGUSTIN, PETER VINCENT	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2652	
DATE MAILED: 12/05/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/065,765	Applicant(s) WANG ET AL.	
	Examiner Peter Vincent Agustin	Art Unit 2652	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 September 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 11-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 11-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 11-20 are now pending.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on September 2, 2005 has been entered.

Specification

3. The amendment filed September 2, 2005 is objected to under 35 U.S.C. 132(a) because it introduces new matter into the disclosure. 35 U.S.C. 132(a) states that no amendment shall introduce new matter into the disclosure of the invention. The added material which is not supported by the original disclosure is as follows: in claims 11 & 17, the recitation "whereby data recording does not need to be synchronized with the spindle motor operation". Applicant alleges on page 4, item 2 that Figure 1 and paragraphs 0013 & 0014 of the specification disclose this feature. The Examiner disagrees. Figure 1 and paragraphs 0013 and 0014 of the Applicant's disclosure teach components of a first circuit 10 and a second circuit 40. However, there is no mention that data recording does not need to be synchronized with the spindle motor operation, as claimed.

Applicant is required to cancel the new matter in the reply to this Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

5. Claims 11-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Claims 11 & 17 recite “whereby data recording does not need to be synchronized with the spindle motor operation”, which claim language has not been described in the original disclosure, and therefore, constitutes new matter.

Claims 12-16 & 18-20 are dependent upon rejected base claims.

6. Claims 11-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Claims 11 & 17 recite “whereby data recording does not need to be synchronized with the spindle motor operation”. There is no disclosure of a structure on how this function is achieved so as to enable one skilled in the art to make and use the claimed invention.

Claims 12-16 & 18-20 are dependent upon rejected base claims.

7. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

Art Unit: 2652

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

8. Claims 11-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential elements, such omission amounting to a gap between the elements. See MPEP § 2172.01.

Claim 11 recites the intended use/function “whereby data recording does not need to be synchronized with the spindle motor operation” but does not positively recite a specific structure that performs this function.

Claim 17 recites the intended use/function “whereby data recording does not need to be synchronized with the spindle motor operation” but does not positively recite a specific step that achieves this function.

Claims 12-16 & 18-20 are dependent upon rejected base claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

9. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

10. Claims 11, 14-17, 19 & 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Matsui et al. (US 6,118,742).

In so far as the claims are definite, clear and understood:

In regard to claim 11, Matsui et al. disclose an optical disc system (Figure 5) for recording data to an optical disc (104), the optical disc system comprising: an optical pickup unit (105) for accessing data on the disc and producing a wobble signal (WOBBLE); a spindle motor

Art Unit: 2652

(119) for rotating the disc according to a control signal; a phase locked loop (109) for extracting a carrier frequency of the wobble signal; a clock synthesizer (109: note that element 109 corresponds to both the claimed phase-locked loop and clock synthesizer; see column 18, lines 21-24) for producing a channel clock corresponding to a linear velocity, according to the wobble signal carrier frequency; an encoding unit (136) for encoding incoming data utilizing the channel clock, and then for producing a corresponding data signal for driving the optical pickup unit to record data to the optical disc; whereby data recording does not need to be synchronized with the spindle motor operation (considered inherent, see MPEP § 2112.01).

In regard to claim 14, Matsui et al. disclose that the optical pickup is a laser pickup (understood since 104 is a DVD-RAM disk).

In regard to claim 15, Matsui et al. disclose that the optical disc system is an optical disc recorder (understood since 104 is a DVD-RAM disk).

In regard to claim 16, Matsui et al. disclose that the spindle motor rotates the optical disc at constant angular velocity (column 19, lines 33-35).

Claims 17, 19 & 20 have limitations similar to those of claims 11, 15 & 16; thus, they are rejected on the same basis.

11. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsui et al.

For a description of Matsui et al., see the rejection above. However, in regard to claim 12, Matsui et al. do not explicitly disclose a preamplifier connected between the optical pickup unit and the PLL for amplifying the wobble signal output by the optical pickup unit.

Official Notice is taken that both the concept and advantages of preamplifiers for amplifying wobble signals are notoriously old and well-known in the art. It would have been

Art Unit: 2652

obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention by the Applicant to have added a preamplifier for amplifying the wobble signal of Matsui et al., the motivation being to strengthen the wobble signal, thereby ensuring a more accurate detection.

Claim 18 has limitations similar to those of claim 12; thus, it is rejected on the same basis.

12. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsui et al. in view of Masaki et al. (US 5,732,055).

In regard to claim 13, Matsui et al. disclose that the encoding unit further comprises: a data encoder (suggested by RECORD-SIGNAL GENERATING CIRCUIT 136), for encoding data according to the channel clock; and a laser driver (inherent component that drives the laser and controls the pickup), for controlling the optical pickup unit for recording to the optical disc. However, in regard to claim 13, Matsui et al. does not explicitly disclose that the encoding unit comprises a firmware for transforming the encoded data into a pulse train.

Masaki et al. disclose a firmware for transforming encoded data into a pulse train (column 1, line 56 thru column 2, line 6). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention by the Applicant to have applied the teachings of Masaki et al. to the system of Matsui et al., the motivation being to increase recording density (column 1, line 58).

Response to Arguments

13. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 11-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Art Unit: 2652


Conclusion

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peter Vincent Agustin whose telephone number is 571-272-7567. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:30-5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, A. L. Wellington can be reached on 571-272-4483. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Peter Vincent Agustin
Art Unit 2652



PETER VINCENT AGUSTIN
PATENT EXAMINER